

Jacobs stuns Hayes with 40 yard cracker!

THREE well taken goals, including one remarkable effort from 40 yards, were the highlights of an otherwise disappointing Berger Isthmian League match at Loakes Park on Tuesday when, for the first time in three meetings this season, Wycombe got the better of Hayes.

The match started so brightly for Blues, who put Saturday's memories behind them with a second minute goal. Steve Long used all his skill and balance to beat three defenders before slipping the ball past Paul Priddy.

Wycombe were undoubtedly the better team during the first period and in rare flashes tore the Hayes defen-

ce apart. Holifield beat player after player in one move which took him from the wing to the middle edge of the penalty area.

Just as it looked as if he had met his match, Dell was on hand to shoot at goal, an effort which went narrowly wide. Then Long put a Jacobs cross against the top of the cross-bar to round off a brilliant move.

Bookings

But for all their early efforts Wycombe then saw Hayes equalise. The ball was given away in midfield and Graham Drake took the opportunity to shoot. Lester had the shot covered but it took a deflection off Hardwick and went in.

Shortly after the goal, the first of seven names went into referee Mr Bishop's

notebook. Mick McGovern was shown the yellow card when he argued over a corner decision.

As if they had not learned their lesson Hardwick and Graham Drake soon joined McGovern when they had a frank exchange of views.

On a day when the referee made almost as many notes as I did, two more players were booked before the interval. No list of bookings this season would be complete without George Borg and at the same time Gary Smith's name was recorded for posterity.

In the middle of all these bookings came Jimmy Jacobs' magnificent 40 yard goal which gave Wycombe the half-time advantage.

Borg, with the ink barely dry in the referee's book for what looked a hard but fair tackle, sent a high ball to

Jacobs who was standing on the half-way line.

Jacobs took three or four strides, looked up, saw the goalkeeper in no-man's land outside his area and shot. To the cheers of the 718 Wycombe faithful the ball went over the head of Priddy and bobbed over the line for what must go down as one of the best goals of the season.

Normal

After the break Wycombe seemed unable to find their form. Tony Price had one of those games when nothing went right for him. Even simple passes went astray. Terry Glynn looked lost, although that was probably due to Price's poor form. Let's hope Price resumes normal service as soon as possible!

Long, the only one of the front men to show his normal form, had a chance to increase Wycombe's lead in the 75th minute when he played a one-two with Glynn in the centre circle which split what there was of the defence. He ran on into the area, but Priddy spread himself well and blocked the shot.

Had Hayes been performing at all well, they would have been able to capitalise on Wycombe's poor passing, but each side was as bad as the other.

After the names of Joe Auguste and Laurie Craker had completed Mr Bishop's list, a free kick taken on the left gave Wycombe a happy ending to a forgettable game.

Borg took the kick, awarded after Roger McKay had brought down Holifield. When the ball ran loose just inside the right corner of the area, Jacobs was on hand to strike the ball home sweetly.

Two late efforts by Hayes almost brought goals. First Auguste struck the bar with a fierce shot from 18 yards which had Lester beaten, and then Drake saw his diving header to substitute Chapman's cross hit the post and come out, again with Lester nowhere.

However, Wycombe took their chances whereas Hayes did not, and with three more points in the bag move into fourth place in the league.

WYCOMBE: G. Lester, P. Birdseye, G. Borg, B. Davies, S. Hardwick, B. Dell, S. Long, J. Jacobs, T. Glynn, T. Price, M. Holifield. Sub: K. Wilson (not used).

HAYES: P. Priddy, R. McKay, M. Harrison, L. Craker, G. Smith, M. Scott (sub: G. Chapman 65 mins), M. McGovern, G. Drake, J. Auguste, M. Howell, G. Huxley.

Referee: Mr H. E. Bishop (Thame).

Attendance: 718.

Half-time: 2-1. **Scorers:** Wycombe: Long (2 mins), Jacobs (41, 85). Hayes: Drake (20).